



PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY LEAGUE, INC.

TEN NORTH FRANKLIN STREET • WILKES BARRE, PA 18701 • 717 - 824-3559

March 30, 1983

Ms. Linda Turner
108 Washington Street
Carbondale, Pennsylvania 18407

Dear Ms. Turner:

This is a follow-up to our recent telephone conversation during which you inquired about the goals and objectives of the Pennsylvania Economy League and asked how we might be of assistance to the City of Carbondale and its taxpayers.

The Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) is a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization devoted exclusively to improving productivity and accountability in our state and local governments. It is funded primarily by membership contributions from business, industry, and individuals. The League has a full-time staff working on a day-to-day basis to bring objective facts and analyses into government decision-making so that sound public policies can result.

PEL maintains a program of continuing fiscal oversight including review of expenditure programs of the Commonwealth and its major counties, cities, and school districts, and provides trouble-shooting research and assistance to public officials and citizen groups on a variety of governmental problems.

The PEL has examined the policies and procedures of the state welfare system, recommended changes in the state's insurance procurement and real estate leasing procedures, undertaken a comprehensive analysis of the state budget process, analyzed the condition and the financial future of the state's unemployment compensation program, and completed a comprehensive examination of the operation of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, which resulted in a significant upgrading of highway maintenance and construction activities and national recognition for PEL.

Most recently, PEL activities of a statewide nature have focused on state mandates on public schools, public utility taxation, the Commonwealth's internal expenditure controls, the capital stock and franchise taxes, real estate tax assessment practices, and public employee retirement systems including recommending and helping to draft legislation that created a much needed Public Employee Retirement Study Commission to restore financial integrity to state and local pension systems in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Linda Turner

Page 2

March 30, 1983

At the local level PEL has aided cities and other municipalities by analyzing their financial condition; overall organization and management structure; administrative procedures; budgeting and accounting procedures; staffing, spending, and work load relationships; tax collection policies, procedures, and effectiveness; job classification systems and pay plans; wages and benefits of employees; and performed a variety of other services for local officials--all designed to provide a factual base and appropriate recommendations on which to make sound public policy decisions.

If you have any further questions about the League's program and activities, or if you think we can be of specific assistance to Carbondale, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Watters
Assistant Director

Enclosures

*I attended a meeting at the BBC
at 11:45 AM on 07-06-83, at which representatives
from the PEL were present. So were
Rev. Puller
Rev. Starger
Esther Singer
Sam Falbo*